



***Proposal For***

**OPERATIONALISATION AND  
FOLLOW UP ACTIONS OF THE AFRICA  
AIDS WATCH GROUP**

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**(AWA)**

*This is a draft proposal prepared on behalf of Aids Watch Africa (AWA).  
AWA is a group of prominent African leaders who have been mandated to follow up the  
Abuja Declaration on HIV/Aids, TB and Other Related Infectious Diseases. Further  
information on AWA can be solicited from UNAIDS office in Nigeria  
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## Proposal For

Draft

# OPERATIONALISATION AND FOLLOW UP ACTIONS OF THE AFRICA AIDS WATCH GROUP

The Presidents of Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, and Uganda UN Secretary General and (OAU) African Union Secretary General took the initiative during the Abuja Summit on HIV/Aids, TB and ORID<sup>1</sup> to provide the platform for the development of a continent wide network that will be able to identify and publicise champions in the fight against the epidemic. This has now grown into AWA, under the chairmanship of President Olusegun Obasanjo. The purpose of the AWA is to develop emergency African response architecture to the alarming spread of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Africa and to try to develop a follow-up mechanism to develop effective and efficient measures to curb the epidemic. The work of AWA is to develop a group of African leaders that can champion the cause of HIV/AIDS and publicise champions who have successfully managed the epidemic.

AWA's mission is empowering societies and polities across Africa in the fight against HIV/AIDS. It is also nurturing and advancing champions who have empowered themselves to make a difference in this frightening epidemic. Empowerment is about gaining power and liberty, it is the faculty or capacity to act, the strength and potency to accomplish a common community and citizenship duty. It is the vital energy to make choice and decisions -- to overcome deeply embedded practices and to cultivate higher, more effective ones. Empowerment, the feeling of security, and guidance bring true wisdom and wisdom becomes the spark or catalyst to release and direct power. This is AWA's mission. It is to mobilise the hidden potential and resources, by recognizing its unsung heroes, of the world community to fight the pandemic at the community level in Africa.

## Section I

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### **AWA leadership brought to bear on the HIV/AIDS pandemic**

AWA's leadership and the creation of new forces of solidarity and advocacy are essential for an effective response to the epidemic. The challenge for AWA is to advocate for best practices by governments, civil society and the corporate community. The functions of AWA in relation to this are

- a) Recognise champions that ensure the development and implementation of multi sectoral, national strategies and financing plans for combating HIV/AIDS that: address the epidemic in forthright terms; confront stigma and denial; involve partnerships with civil society and the full participation of people living with HIV/AIDS; are resourced to the extent possible from national budgets; take full account of human rights and the integration of a gender perspective; and address risk, vulnerability, prevention, care and reduction of the impact of the epidemic

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<sup>1</sup> Other related Infectious Diseases

- b) Encourage regional organizations and partners to take a greater interest in the crisis, intensify regional cooperation, and develop regional strategies and responses in support of expanded country level efforts;
- c) Advocate for the respect for human rights is ensured by developing indicators through policy reviews of existing non-discrimination legislation and protective laws in order to adopt new or strengthen existing legislation to ensure equal rights in education, employment and services for people living with HIV/AIDS. National legislative infrastructure is in place to promote, protect and respect the rights of people living with HIV/AIDS to information, quality care, confidentiality and privacy.
- d) Advocate for the implementation of measures that incorporate HIV/AIDS surveillance, prevention and response programmes in complex emergencies on refugees, internally displaced persons, women and children and national defence services

AWA's leadership should also acknowledge the fact that the HIV/AIDS challenge cannot be met without new and additional resources. Its champions must be recognised by increasing spending on HIV/AIDS activities. National budgetary allocations for HIV/AIDS programmes must have grown commensurate to the challenge posed by the epidemic. Government, society and stakeholders in both must have demonstrated adequate allocations to the epidemic to

- a) Integrate HIV/AIDS concerns in all development assistance programmes and poverty reduction strategies, and encouraged more efficient and effective use of all resources allocated, including accelerated debt relief and direct the additional freed resources to national HIV/AIDS programmes
- b) Mobilize contributions from public and private sources with a special appeal to foundations, the business community, the private sector and wealthy individuals and provided the expanded theme group with the resources needed to support the implementation of the measures and initiatives in the Declaration.

## **Section II**

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### **A plan of action for AWA Objectives, outputs and activities**

Because AWA is responsible for the millions lives at risk from HIV/AIDS, proactive leadership goes beyond more than merely taking initiative. People's behaviour is a function of their decisions and their conditions; they can subordinate feelings to values, hence AWA must have both the initiative and the responsibility to make things happen. Responsibility is the ability to choose response. Between stimulus and response, AWA has the mission freedom to propagate informed choices. AWA has imagination: the ability to create beyond its present reality.

AWA's code and principle of practice is based on the four unique human endowments of imagination, conscience, independent will, and practically, self-awareness. It is principle-centred, it is conscience directed, and it defines AWA's unique mission of humane values and long-term human development goals. This gives direction and purpose to the way AWA leads the way, it helps AWA balance actions on the ground by identifying roles and by setting goals and scheduling activities in each key role and it gives greater context through principles of organising; rising above the limiting perspective of a routine work day and putting in touch with the community's deepest values.

The practical thread running through all these advances is a primary focus on relationships and results and secondary focus on timing. The plan of action for AWA will be based on the principle of

developing the capacity of the group to recognise champions of multi sectoral, national strategies and financing plans and legislation and advocacy to ensure equal rights for PLWHA, to intensify regional cooperation, and develop regional strategies and responses, advocate measures that incorporate HIV/AIDS interventions in populations affected by conflict, advocate for national budgetary allocations for HIV/AIDS programmes, mainstream HIV/AIDS concerns in all development assistance programmes, accelerated debt relief and direct the additional freed resources to national HIV/AIDS programmes and mobilising resources for HIV/AIDS from public and private sources to maintain momentum and monitoring progress. To this effect, the following objectives outputs and actionable programmes have been developed for the year.

- Objective 1: Recognise champions of multi sectoral, national strategies and financing plans**
- Output 1:** AWA will produce a performance index related state of the epidemic in Africa, with emphasis on high performing and low performing countries, communities, institutions and individuals.
- Activity 1:** AWA through its secretariat will undertake an assessment of the state of the pandemic in each African country by deploying the resources of the UN, AU/OAU, Governments and non-governmental organisations and the UNAIDS secretariat in particular.
- Activity 2:** AWA will determine, through its secretariat, those deserving to be identified as champions and receive recognition by the United Nations Secretary General.
- Output 2:** The UN, AU and AWA will award those deserving champions
- Activity 3:** AWA will propose the terms and conditions for identification of countries, institutions, communities and individuals and the nature of awards to be given to the same.
- Objective 2: Intensify regional cooperation, and develop regional strategies and responses**
- Output 1:** An African response architecture developed with clear plans of operation and goals
- Activity 1:** Develop an operational plan of action for the Abuja Declaration based on the plan of action approved in Geneva at the Meeting of Ministers of Health in May 2001.
- Activity 2:** Disseminate and monitor the implementation of the operational plan.
- Activity 3:** Advocate measures that incorporate HIV/AIDS interventions in populations affected by conflict
- Activity 4:** Mainstream HIV/AIDS concerns in all development assistance programmes
- Output 2:** Keep HIV/Aids in the agenda of international meetings
- Activity 1:** Initiate a forceful diplomatic networking on HIV/Aids to creatively insert HIV/Aids in the agenda of all international and national conferences in Africa
- Activity 2:** The UN and AU Secretariat will take initiatives at ensuring that such agenda are placed properly in these meeting.
- Objective 3: Mobilise resources for HIV/AIDS from public and private sources**
- Output 1:** Develop strategies to raise funds from governments and the private sector in all countries involved in the fight against Aids

- Activity 1: Develop and disseminate strategies for continent wide resource mobilisation from the international community
- Activity 2: Advocate for national budgetary allocations for HIV/AIDS programmes
- Activity 3: Develop and disseminate strategies for continent wide resource mobilisation from the private sector, foundations and civil society
- Activity 4: Advocate for accelerated debt relief and direct the additional freed resources to national HIV/AIDS programmes

### Section III

#### Steps to be taken to implement AWA mandates

1. President Obasanjo starts writing to the seven other heads of states on their responsibilities vis-à-vis the follow up. The UNAIDS office in Nigeria can draft the necessary documentation to support the government to undertake this.
2. NACA, MoH and the UNAIDS office in Abuja can act as a secretariat for AWA until a time when the group will have their own international secretariat. The fact that very little has happened to date is grounded on this simple fact - the lack of such a body. By doing so the secretariat will then develop terms of references, mission references and prepare consultations to implement the activity programmes detailed above.
3. The budget for the first three years will be as follows

#### Activity costs I

	Cost centre	Unit	Unit cost	Subtotal
Objective One	AWA through will undertake a rapid assessment of the state of the pandemic in each African country	18 PM <sup>2</sup>	USD 5000	USD 90,000
	AWA will determine those deserving to be identified as champions and receive recognition by the United Nations Secretary General.	18 PM	5000	90,000
	AWA will propose the terms and conditions for identification of countries, institutions, communities and individuals and the nature of awards to be given to the same.	6 PM		218,000
			<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>398,000</b>

#### Activity costs II

	Cost centre	Unit	Unit cost	Subtotal
Objective Two	Develop an operational plan for the Abuja Declaration based on the plan of action approved at the Meeting of Ministers of Health in May 2001.	9 PM	5000	45,000
	Disseminate and monitor the implementation of the operational plan.	36 PM	2000	72,000
	Advocate measures that incorporate HIV/AIDS interventions in conflicts	15 PM	3000	45,000
	Advocate for mainstreaming HIV/AIDS concerns in all development aid	11 PM	5000	55,000
	Initiate a forceful diplomatic networking on HIV/Aids to creatively insert HIV/Aids in the agenda of all international and national conferences	11 PM	5000	55,000
	The UN and AU Secretariat will take initiatives at ensuring that such agenda are placed properly in these meeting.	12 PM	5000	60,000
			<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>332,000</b>

#### Activity costs III

	Cost centre	Unit	Unit cost	Subtotal
Objective Three	Develop and disseminate advocacy strategies for resource mobilisation at the international level	18 PM	3000	54,000
	Advocate for national budgetary allocations for HIV/AIDS programmes	3 PM	50000	150,000
	Develop and disseminate strategies for continent wide resource mobilisation from the private sector, foundations and civil society	18 PM	3000	54,000
	Advocate for accelerated debt relief and direct the additional freed resources to national HIV/AIDS programmes	15 PM	5000	75,000

<sup>2</sup> PM – Person months, Ls - lumpsum

<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>333,000</b>
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**Management costs:**

	<b>Cost centre</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Subtotal</b>
<b>Management costs</b>	Human Resources (Director, Secretary, Accountant)	36PM	220,000
	Office management costs (Publications, stationery, power, water)	Ls	170,000
	Office rent	Ls	50,000
	Office equipment (Computers, printers, furniture)	Ls	66,000
	Travel	Ls	110,000
	Transport	Ls	48,000
	Communication	Ls	150,000
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>814,000</b>
<b>Grand total</b>			<b>USD 1,877,000</b>

**Time frame for action**

**Months:**

<b>ACTIONS 2002 - 2003</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>1. Recognise champions of multi sectoral, national strategies and financing plans</b>												
<b>2. Intensify regional cooperation, and develop regional strategies and responses</b>												
<b>3. Mainstream HIV/AIDS concerns in all development assistance programmes</b>												
<b>4. Mobilize resources for HIV/AIDS from public and private sources</b>												